## REMARKS

Claims 28-48 are pending in the application. The claims are amended to correct reference numerals in the dependent claims and to comply with the Examiner's numbering of the claims. Applicant respectfully traverses as discussed below. No new matter is added. Claims 28-48 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Applicant **provisionally elects** the invention identified by the Examiner as Group 1, which includes claims 28, 29, 34 and 35.

## **ELECTION/RESTRICTIONS**

The Examiner issues a Restriction under 35 USC 121 and 372. The Examiner concludes that the application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. Applicant respectfully traverses.

The Examiner groups the claims as follows:

Group I, claim(s) 28, 29, 34, 35 drawn to an apparatus with a controller with a loop filter, multiphase clock generator, startup sequencer etc.

Group II, claim(s) 28 and 30, drawn to an apparatus with a controller with a plurality of switches.

Group III, claim(s) 28 and 31, drawn to an apparatus with a controller having a loop filter and one or more integrators, etc.

Group IV, claim(s) 28, 32, 36, drawn to an apparatus with a multiphase clock generator and data independent clock resynchronization.

Group V, claim(s) 28 and 33, drawn to an apparatus with a sensor simulator.

Group VI, claim(s) 37 and 38, drawn to an method of controlling the operation of a sensor including determining the operating mode of the sensor.

Group VII, claim(s) 37 and 39-42, drawn to a method of controlling wherein the sensor assembly includes a loop filter, one or more integrators, etc.

Group VIII, claim(s) 37 and 43, drawn to a method of controlling including generating a clock signal.

Group IX, claim(s) 37, 44-45, drawn to a method of controlling including resampling.

Group X, claim(s) 37 and 46, drawn to a method of controlling with an analog circuit.

Group XI, claim(s) 37 and 47, drawn to a method of controlling including testing the controller.

Group XII, claim(s) 37 and 48, drawn to a method of controlling including offsetting the effects of external acceleration forces.

The Examiner asserts that the inventions listed as Groups I-XII do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because, under PCT Rule 13.2, they lack the same or corresponding special technical features for the following reasons: because an apparatus with a controller with a loop filter, multiphase clock generator, startup sequencer etc. is not the same as and does not relate to an apparatus with a controller with a plurality of switches which is not the same as and does not relate to an apparatus with a controller having a loop filter and one or more integrators, etc. which is not the same as and does not relate to an apparatus with a multiphase clock generator and data independent clock resynchronization which is not the same as and does not relate to drawn to an apparatus with a sensor simulator which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling the operation of a sensor including determining the operating mode of the sensor which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling wherein the sensor assembly includes a loop filter, one or more integrators, etc. which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling including generating a clock signal which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling including resampling which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling with an analog circuit which is not the same and does not relate to a method of controlling with an analog circuit which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling including testing and controller which is not the same as and does not relate to a method of controlling including offsetting the effects of external acceleration forces.

Applicant respectfully traverses the requirement and requests reconsideration. The Examiner admits in the groupings that independent claim 28 covers each of Groups 1-5. Applicant would draw attention to the embodiment shown in Figure 3, which embodiment is further detailed in Figures 4, 5 and 44 (among others). Figure 3 shows sensor 205, coupled to controller 206, the controller including front end circuit 310, multi-phase clock generator 320, sensor simulator 330, loop filter 315, startup sequencer 325 and overload detection circuit 335. Figure 4 further details the front end circuit 310 by showing the various switches and sense amplifier 405. Figure 5 then details the loop filter 315 of Figure 3. Figures 44 and 45 further detail the multi-phase clock generator 320 of Figure 3. Figures 51 and 52 further detail the sensor simulator 330.

With respect to Group 2, the elements are covered by the embodiment of Figure 3 as further detailed by Figure 4. Group 3 is covered by the embodiment of Figure 3 as further detailed by Figure 5. Group 4 is covered by the embodiment of Figure 3 as further detailed by Figures 44 and 45. Group 5 is covered by Figure 3 sensor simulator 330 as further detailed by figures 51 and 52.

Applicant respectfully submits that the examiner erroneously asserts the claims, as grouped by the Examiner, lack the same or corresponding special technical features. All limitations of independent claim 28 are necessarily included in each claim depending therefrom. Furthermore, the described embodiment clearly shows how the elements claimed in the dependent claims correspond to each other. Consequently, Applicant submits that the Examiner has not presented a prima facie case for restriction.

Claim 37 is a method for controlling the operation of a sensor assembly. The Examiner admits that claim 37 is generic to each of Groups 6-12. The description beginning at page 20, line 12 (published version) describes the operation of measurement mass 105. As with the apparatus claims 28-36, method claim 37 and the several dependent claims are not, as the examiner suggests, unrelated to one another. Consequently, Applicant submits that claims 37-48 form at most one group.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the restriction and election requirement as to Groups 1-5 and as to Groups 6-12. Alternatively, Applicant requests regrouping of the claims as Group 1 covering claims 28-36 and Group 2 covering method claims 37-48.

## **CONCLUSION**

For all the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that the application is in a condition for allowance. The fee for a request for extension of time is submitted herewith. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-0010 (IO-1009US).

Respectfully submitted,

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## CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this paper, along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being mailed to the Attention: MS: Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, via the United States Postal Service, First Class Mail, postage prepaid on this 9th day of February, 2005.

Beth Pearson-Naul